

THE SHAMROCK

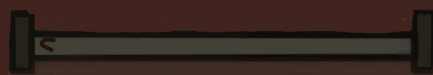
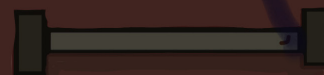
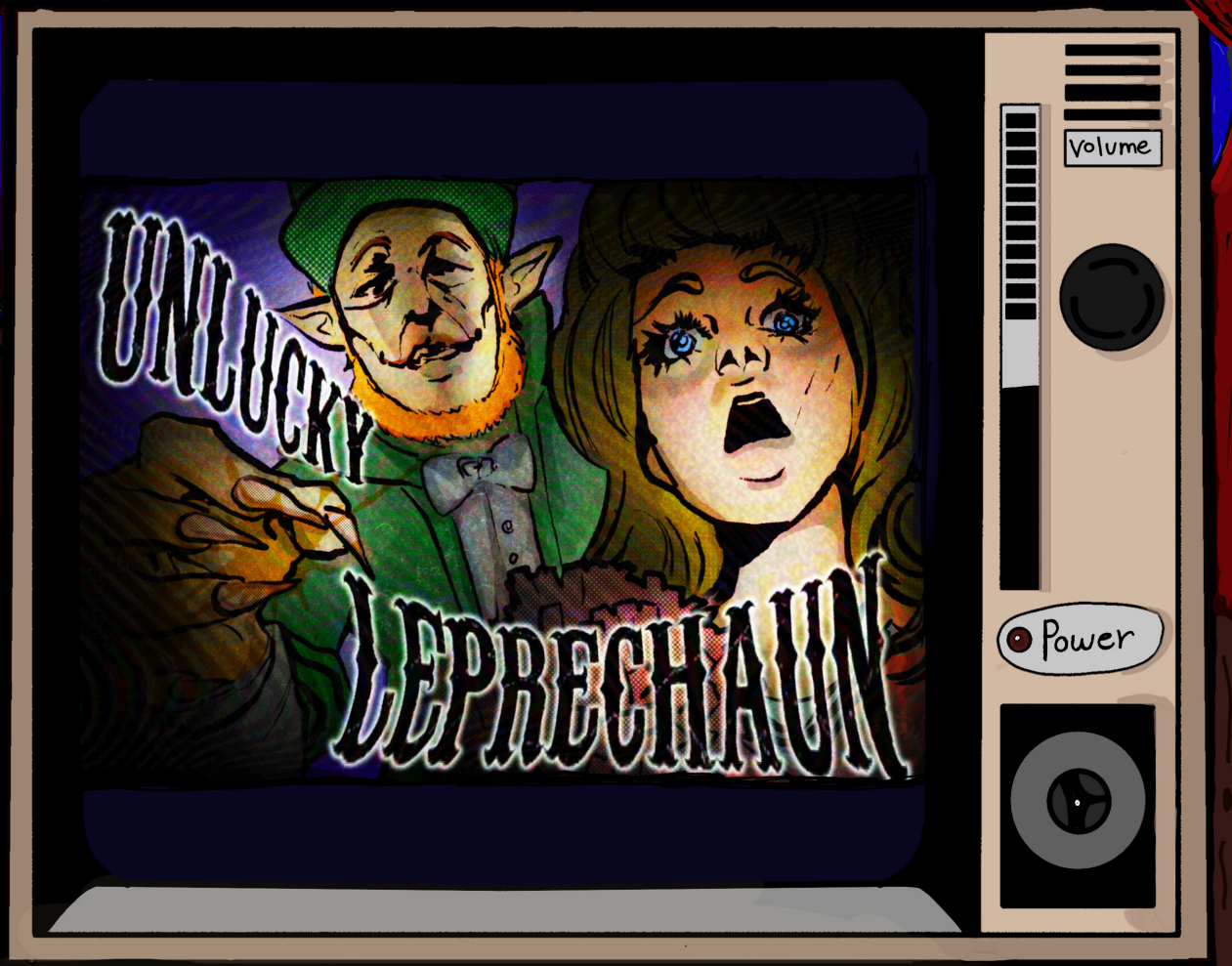
VOL. 53, ISSUE 1



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

FALL CHECKLIST

HOCO GAME 2024



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH

OCTOBER 21, 2024

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THE SHAMROCK

VOLUME 53

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Owen Jessen

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Matthew Corcoran

Cover Art

Charlie Gonzalez

Amara Reyes

Illustrations

Ava Cerda

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Baby Bumps On Campus

RAYA ANDERSON

Copy Editor

Starting Monday, Oct. 21, Kennedy High students may notice something unusual: some students are suddenly pregnant. But don't worry, it's just for a day. Introducing maternity vests, Child Development students must wear them for one full school day as part of their curriculum taking turns throughout the semester.

Kennedy High will be using equipment from RealityWorks. The maternity vests weigh between 25-30 pounds, signifying the third trimester of pregnancy. Inside the vests is sand, a water bladder, a steel ball, and foam breasts. Students can not take them off or they will receive an automatic fail. Participants must take care of them, as the vests cost around \$1200. Students will wear the vest underneath a provided maternity shirt, not visible, adding to the experience.

"This wearable pregnancy vest and robust curriculum help users understand pregnancy's impact on the body as well as finances, relationships, and emotions," Reality Works said on their website realityworks.com.

In the past, Child Development students were given a mechanical baby in the second semester, so the maternity vests will simulate the beginning. No matter the gender, students will have to participate, or they can opt out for another assignment so they will still get conceptual knowledge.

"I feel like walking around school with it is a little embarrassing. However, I understand why we do it," junior Cameryn



Courtesy of REALITY WORKS

Child Development students across campus will be wearing maternity vests starting today.

Stallings said.

The alternative assignment will be based on the same subject of pregnancy, exploring areas of physical, emotional, and social parts of pregnancy. It consists of researching, interviewing, and a reflection at the end of the assignment. Afterwards they will have to present what they have learned, following a specific criteria.

The schedule starts on Oct. 21, Monday through Friday, with five students a day. Usually, when wearing the vests, past participants have noticed their body temperature has risen, along with some muscle pain. Although, it is not perma-

nently damaging, unless a student has a medical condition or circumstances. It is very important that those that fall in those categories participate in the alternative assignment.

"We believe this project will provide invaluable insight into the physical challenges and experiences of pregnancy, enhancing our students' understanding and empathy in child development," Child Development teacher Tamara Aden said in an email.

After the project, students will be able to be prepared and more educated about childbirth and the stages of pregnancy.

Letter From the Editor



SARAH SOLANO

Editor-In-Chief

Dear Reader,

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve our staff and school as the Editor-in-Chief for Volume 53 of The Shamrock.

Being part of The Shamrock has been a new and incredible experience for me and my creativity. My ultimate goal is to use my gained knowledge to my advantage and help this issue and all that follow in

this volume become the best the school has seen yet.

When choosing electives for my junior year, I chose to join The Shamrock mainly because I had heard good things about the journalism class from my friends who were in it. I never imagined that I could become so involved in something so largely known by the school, or that I would evolve so much during my time in the class.

I have always loved writing, but had only ever written for assignments in my English classes. The Shamrock has allowed me to open myself up to a new style of writing and showcase my creativity in many ways, such as graphic design, photography, and layout design.

Every staff member that I have had the privilege of working with, whether they be from this issue or past issues, have only fueled my passion for the work that I do

on The Shamrock.

Our Volume 53 editors and staff reporters have been hard at work alongside our fellow peers, staff, administrators, and community members to create the articles displayed in our first issue.

We strive to be the voice at Kennedy High for all school-related, international, and local news. Our ultimate goal is to showcase the best content we possibly can in each section, between News, Features, Opinions, Sports, and Arts.

We hope that the articles and activities we present through this issue and future issues inspire you to become more involved and engaged on campus.

We are proud to present our new volume to you!

Sarah Solano

ENGAGE



EDUCATE



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La Palma's Missing Person Case

ANNELIESE CROSLIN

Staff Reporter

On Sept. 2, 2024 Geetaben Patel, a 58-year-old woman went missing at 2:15 p.m. She was last seen in sleepwear pants and a T-shirt outside of her home near Del Sol Cir in La Palma.

Patel was reported to be schizophrenic and required medication, which she does not have access to. She also left barefoot without her phone or wallet, indicating she was not prepared to go too far.

"My family and I are worried because she is without her medication, and due to the high temperatures that recently scorched the area, there is a higher chance she could have fallen ill," Patel's son, Sagar Patel, said in an interview with KTLA.

Knowing she has been missing for multiple weeks, the sudden weather changes and lack of medication are critical concerns.

Within the area she lived in, the police asked residents for any evidence of where Patel could have gone.

"The police asked if we had video footage they could review," Emily Hong, a senior and neighbor of Patel's said.

Unfortunately, Hong did not have any video footage to share. Some of the only footage of Patel known to the public on that day is of her walking outside of her house.

Patel's disappearance has not gotten much coverage besides the few flyers put up around La Palma. Most people in La Palma are unaware of the fact that someone is

missing in their area.

"I didn't know about the missing person really at all," junior Cloe Kim said. "I saw a flyer but didn't look closely at it."

The flyers didn't fully capture

people's attention about the incident, with only a few informed or concerned.

As of now, there is little information regarding sightings of Patel or if she maintains her health.



SAGAR PATEL/Facebook

Most recent photos of Patel before her disappearance on Sept. 2.

Kennedy High Student Hit By Car: The Latest in a Series of Pedestrian Accidents

SOPHIA YI

Staff Reporter

On Aug 13, 2024 at 8:20 a.m., Kennedy High junior Rafielle Custodio was hit by a car while riding her bike on Luna Dr near Kennedy.

While on her way to school, Custodio was crossing the street when a car from Luna Dr turned right and hit the back of her bike. Due to the car not seeing her, the front bumper hit the back of her bike wheels. The impact of the car caused her to fall off her bike and onto her left knee causing contusion on it.

Custodio's immediate family was notified 10 minutes after the crash by the La Palma police who had Custodio's family number from school records. Custodio's mom, Andrea Custodio, was the first to be contacted.

"Of course being a mother I

was so scared, worried, and afraid of how serious this was. Especially because I was not there physically to take care of and protect her," Andrea Custodio said.

Upon hearing the news that Custodio was hit by a car and injured, her friends were worried for her. A fellow junior at Kennedy High, Dylan Komoda was shocked to hear the news.

"There were past events where students got hit by cars, and it's crazy to hear about it happening to someone you're close with," Komoda said.

Kennedy High has witnessed two different accidents involving two different students over the past two years. Rumors indicate there might have been a third accident in 2022-23, but our investigation could not confirm. Kennedy High administration posted a public message on ParentSquare in 2023-

24 regarding the student who was hit in front of Walker Junior High on his way to school.

"We recognize the gravity of this situation and the impact it has on our community as a whole,"

former Principal Seema Sidhu said in a past statement.

There is no prediction of when an accident is going to happen. It is very important to be aware and on the lookout for anything to happen.

Events Calendar

• **Oct. 26:** Loara Band Review @ Pearson Park - 11:44 a.m.

• **Nov. 7-9 & 14-16:** Theater Show @ MP1 - Doors at 5:30 p.m.

• **Oct. 26:** Loara Field Tournament @ Handel Stadium - 8:30 p.m.

• **Nov. 11:** No School - Veterans Day

• **Oct. 27:** La Palma Halloween Festival @ Central Park 3:30 - 6 p.m.

• **Dec. 6 & 7:** Choir Show @ KPAC 7 p.m.

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The Presidential Debate

XAVIER ALMANZA

Staff Reporter



Courtesy of NBC NEWS

Kamala Harris (left) and Donald Trump (right) face off in the 2024 presidential race.

Every four years, the citizens of America vote for a new president to take control for the next four years. Around two months before the election there is a Presidential Debate between the two election Candidates. On Sept. 10, this year's Presidential Debate occurred in Philadel-

phia, Pennsylvania, with the two running candidates, Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump. The presidential debate is there to help people decide who to vote for.

The debate started with Vice President Harris being questioned by American

broadcaster Linsey Davis for changing policy positions when controlling a country. Davis starts with questioning her policy change about fracking, to which Harris responded by explaining that she will not ban fracking and she made this statement very clear in 2020 when running for vice president.

"I was the tie-breaking vote on the Inflation Reduction Act which opened new leases for fracking," Harris said.

Harris pointed out that former President Trump was gifted \$400 million, and that he filed for bankruptcy six times.

Trump responded that he was never given \$400 million but received only a fraction of that. He claimed Harris has been against fracking for 12 years. He then stated that if she won the election, fracking in Pennsylvania would end. Lastly, he claimed that his oil business was doing great on its own until Harris and President Joe Biden shut down the oil business causing the prices for oil to skyrocket. Next, Trump was asked if he regretted what he caused on Jan. 6, 2021, referring to the riot at the US Capitol Building. Trump claimed he wanted it to be peaceful and patriotic.

Each candidate talked about changing their policies, which for voters is a good thing considering that both candidates want good for the country. However, they

may only be changing their ways specifically to look for people to like them.

"They might be only changing their traditional ways for votes because the goal is to win at all costs," American government teacher Brit Johnson said.

The presidential debate got hectic because many false claims were thrown at each other. As Election Day nears, the candidates' claims from the debate are being taken into careful consideration by the American people.



Courtesy of LINCOLN COUNTY MISSOURI

Hand drawn design by 8th grader Grace Duncan

Wildfires in Line for San Bernadino

LEA ERNST

Staff Reporter

The San Bernardino Mountains have recently been affected by the Line Fire which destroyed structures, homes and nature. The fire started on Sept. 7, 2024 and has been ongoing with some improvements that have helped minimize the fire. Many people have had to evacuate and have been affected by the fire. An arson suspect has not been found yet, though the Damage Inspection Team continues to investigate.

The line fire rapidly spread through the dry, rugged terrain of the San Bernardino Mountains, forcing evacuations in nearby communities. Fueled by high winds and worsened by drought conditions, the fire has already lasted over a month and continues to pose a significant threat to homes and wildlife. Fire crews worked day and night to contain the blaze. The cold weather helped the situation, though it had complicated it in the first week when it got more hot. As local residents braced for potential devastation, questions loomed about the fire's origins and how increasingly frequent wildfires are reshaping the region. The fire forced the evacuation of several mountain communities, as flames inched

closer to homes and vital infrastructure. Citizens are anxiously watching as the fire's unpredictable path threatens to escalate. But before the city can be repaired, the fire has to shut down.

"The flames were right up on us because the wind shifted," San Bernardino resident Brian Gano said.

He was trying to hose down the flames alongside his wife and son.

"First thing I grabbed was my mother's ashes," Blaine Bacher, an Arrowbear Lake resident who vacated his home, said in an interview with Los Angeles News. "Second thing I grabbed was my dog's things and the next thing I did was make sure that my stepdad got his butt out of there and then everything else was an afterthought."

Fire officials have urged affected areas to follow evacuation orders immediately, warning that shifting winds could spread the fire even further. The dry conditions in Southern California, paired with years of drought, have provided the perfect fuel for the fire's rapid spread. The San Bernardino Mountains, known for their thick brush and steep slopes, have historically been prone to wildfires, but the increasing frequency and intensity of these fires are raising concerns



Courtesy of The Los Angeles Times
Resident on rooftop with water hose.

among climate experts.

"Please be respectful of those fighting the fire and the community members who are impacted by fire. Never fly drones near wildfires. If you fly, we can't," California Fire said in a news update. "It's becoming more challenging to control these fires."

The fire's cause remains under investigation, but officials have noted that human activity, power lines, or lightning strikes could all be potential sources that are continuing the fire. Local shelters are being set up for evacuees, and nearby cities are

offering resources and support for those displaced, and the larger Big Bear Lake Area from the Dam east to Polique Canyon Road and the Community of Running Springs are helping in evacuations.

For the safety of the environment and people living in San Bernardino, the fire will be handled by Cal Fire soon. At the moment the fire decreases in some areas but appears in other areas, controlled by Cal Fire. A fire suppression repair plan is already set by San Bernardino National Forest and Cal Fire.

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Kennedy Welcomes New Principal

NATHALIE ZAMORA

Arts Editor

Kennedy High has given a warm welcome to the newest member of their Fighting Irish staff, Poppy Hill-Bonales, their principal for the 2024-25 school year.

Being in the educational services industry for 26 years, Hill-Bonales has learned what it's like to work in all departments. Before starting her new era at Kennedy High she was previously a principal at Ball Junior High. On a day to day basis she got to watch the growth of her students by experiencing all the positive things that the students did around the campus.

As Hill-Bonales was previously an assistant principal, she has had the opportunity to connect more with the students and have the opportunity to meet kids and be a part of the memory of them achieving big goals in their life. This made being a principal stand out to her, and is what paved her passion for being a principal.

Not only did Hill-Bonales serve as a principal and assistant principal, but she



Courtesy of THE SHAMROCK

Hill-Bonales, ASB President Matthew Diaz, Board Member Ron Hoshi at Back to School Night.

was also an educator for 19 years at Savannah High. There she was an English/ELD and English/AVID teacher. After being an educator, she then went on to be a Title 1 Specialist. She worked on devel-

oping professional learning for the school site for the other teachers on campus.

"When I would come back from training, I would come back with these really cool ideas and I would do it in

my classroom," Hill-Bonales said. "My students would then have the impact of my learning, but what I realized was that I wanted that impact to be greater than just my students. I wanted that impact on the whole school."

Becoming a Title 1 Specialist opened many doors for Hill-Bonales, and she began to work for something bigger than just her classroom.

One of the most important goals she has for this school year is building a culture and creating an environment where not only students but staff know that they are cared for and appreciated.

"She means what she says," French teacher Catarina Banales said. "You know she's a very good leader."

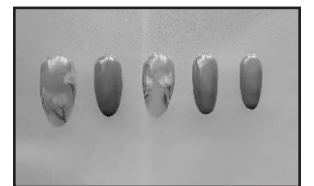
Hill-Bonales knew she always had a special place in her heart for being a teacher and being a leader for students, and we get to see her passion be put into action first hand here at Kennedy. Whether she is greeting students in the morning or being involved in student activities, Kennedy High is lucky to have a welcoming and positive leader to call their principal.

The Kennedy Industry



RAYA ANDERSON

Copy Editor



Craving a sweet treat? Want a fire fit? Thinking of getting your nails done? How about colorful jewelry? If you've been looking for any of these, Kennedy High has entrepreneurs with small businesses that can cater to student needs while supporting the community.

NicosVntge, run by senior Nico Bautista, has been on a rise, following a path of success. Bautista has been interested in fashion, sewing, and working a business, so he has been enjoying the business side of his skills. Since he was younger, he has always been into making profits, resorting to selling clothes. Soon, he became interested in creating clothes too. He gives thanks for all that has supported him in his rise, regarding them as motivation to continue his path into the fashion industry. To build up his business more, he thinks of new ideas and plans consistently. Check out NicosVntge on Instagram and

the variety of clothes offered and support his business.

"If someone doesn't like the product, a follow, a like, a comment goes a long way for small business owners like me," Bautista said.

Senior Phoemela Adrienne Cruz Juan has made a positive impact with her bakery, named Phoembakes, on Instagram. By traveling, her knowledge of food and different cultures expanded. Juan enjoys cooking from scratch to experiment the different ways she can implement techniques, flavors, and ingredients into her recipes. Her hobby has led her to share her baked goods with peers, leading to high regards and increased want.

"I've always loved trying different foods...and I like to put my own twist on things," Juan said.

As of now, Phoembakes offers Brown Butter Chocolate Chip Cookies and White

Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cookies. Price details are available on her website phoembakes.company.site. The website only serves as a way to reserve an order, but not as a means to pay for it. Her hours of operation are on Wednesday and Friday, so don't forget to place a reservation to try one of her anticipated sweets.

Junior Chellsie Duarte has conveyed her art into nails, recently starting a business, called Unnabi Nails. Duarte is involved in many clubs like Red Cross, Key Club, and National Honor Society. Her love for art helps her to relax, decreasing school stress. By applying her skills to nails, she has found the different art concepts to be a fun challenge to complete. Customer satisfaction is very important to her as she hopes to fulfill requests but recommends simplistic and nature driven designs, as she's confident to excel with those.

"I enjoy the process of problem solving and communicating with the customer. Every interaction feels like a chance to connect, learn, and deliver something special," Duarte said.

Junior Dhanwi Malani continues to create intricate designs of colorful jewelry on Instagram, named Sparkle Strands. In her free time, she loves creating jewelry, making sure to have different designs each time, so she can try something new. She offers earrings, waist beads, ankle bracelets, and rings. She doesn't sell by color but rather allows requests for color schemes.

Check out these flourishing businesses, because they aren't recommended for nothing. If interested, disappointment will not be regarded for these entrepreneurs, but rather satisfaction.

*Photos Courtesy of
PHOEMBAKES/NICOSVNTGE,
SPARKLE STRANDS/UNNABI NAILS(From left to right)*

ENGAGE



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6 | FEATURES

Kennedy Welcomes International



Students



NATALIYA LACISTE

Features Editor

Kennedy High is a special school that gives opportunities to everyone, not just the students that live in Orange County. This year they have brought in five foreign exchange students. Leah Ernst and Jakob Zudeick from Germany, Grace Morrone from Italy, An Le from Vietnam, and Erfan Mohammadpur from Iran, to study at Kennedy for the first semester.

Ernst felt that the adjustment for her was dissimilar. She was so used to talking to her friends from home almost every day, but now with the time change, she barely FaceTimes them once a week. She now lives with a host family with Morrone.

"They showed us many things, like Hollywood, and we went down to Hollywood Blvd. Then we went to Venice Beach and Santa Monica Pier," Ernst said.

Although she has had a lot of fun times in Los Angeles, it's a lot different than back home. As Ernst had an amazing time being a tourist, Zudeick's host family took him to Huntington Beach, Los Angeles, San Diego in California, and Mesa AZ.

The food in California is a lot different from other places. Whether it's healthier or tastier, everyone has a different preference in foods.

"I like that there is a variety of food from different countries but I prefer the food in Italy because I think it's healthier and overall it meets my taste," Morrone said.

She is also not the only one who thinks the food is healthier in Europe.

"The fast food is definitely way better here than in Germany. Probably because we don't have a lot of different options in Germany, we just have McDonald's, KFC,

and Burger King. But I still miss some of the German street food or the food from the restaurants," junior Zudeick said.

Ernst and Zudeick's school life now is a lot different from Germany, they usually take 14 classes and now they only take six. Even with the shorter classes, it is not the only thing unlike from Germany. In Germany, schools have a different grading system. The teachers grade from one through six, one being the best

"It's harder, the German school system is faster, and you have to learn more and take 13 classes in one week," Zudeick said.

The exchange students get an opportunity to be able to live the 'dream'. High school feels very typical, but everything is the opposite from the other point of view.

"It's cool. It's like a dream for most European kids, going to a high school in the US," Zudeick said.

of the team. Morrone is also involved on campus, being in ASB.

"One memorable thing I've done at Kennedy is for sure the roaming rally the first days because everything was so new to me," Morrone said.

"I think they should bring more in, especially because we get to learn about where they are from and it's cool to interact with different kinds of people all around the world," senior Ireyan Quibuyen said.

Mohammadpur has been at Kennedy for a little less than a month, and he is a senior this year. Mohammadpur is not an exchange student but he is from Iran and plans to continue living here to apply to colleges.

In Iran, Mohammadpur was a professional soccer player and played as a forward position for The Fc Setaregan Club.

Senior English, Comedy Culture, and Yearbook teacher John Adair had the privilege of teaching Ernst, Zudeick, and Morrone.

"It's so great striking up educational conversations that kind of compare and contrast kind of how their education system is in Europe and different countries there versus than it is here," Adair said. "... their personalities with their classmates and teachers. It's great for the students to strike up friendships with them too, and hear about cool things to do if they ever get over to Germany or France."

The exchange students that get to learn at Kennedy High are making the most out of their time at Kennedy High and are very appreciative of the opportunity and everyone who has been welcoming to them.

Image: MARLENE ASCENCIO/The Shamrock
Graphic: Courtesy of GOOGLE



and six being the worst. At the end of every quarter they have a big exam that is worth the majority of their grade.

Before Mohammadpur came to Kennedy, he spent three weeks at Oxford Academy, but the schedule was too difficult for him and too fast to adjust to. He is now at Kennedy and has felt a lot more comfortable with the pace of things.

The exchange students are having both similar and different experiences at Kennedy High. Zudeick is currently the kicker on the varsity football team. He has built a strong bond and connection with all the boys on the team. Considering how close the boys on the team were already, they never fail to make him feel like he has always been a part

SENIOR TIMELINE



OCT 14: Anaheim College and Career Fair

NOV 21: Last Day to Request Letter of Rec

NOV 21: Last day for Support on CSU/UC Applications



OCT 2: Applications Opened

OCT 10 and 22: College Application Assistance

NOV 22: Last day to register for SAT december test

DEC: Kennedy Scholarships opens

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Celestial Serenade A Hoco to Remember

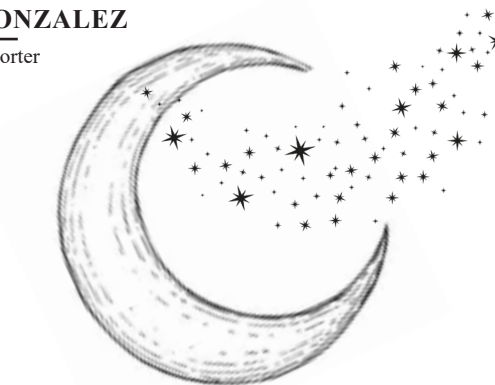
CHARLIE GONZALEZ

Staff Reporter

Students at Kennedy High were excited for a starstruck homecoming dance on Oct. 5, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., with this year's theme being Celestial Serenade. With the Associated Student Body (ASB) planning and decorating, the evening was lively, with delicious food, games, photo booths, a dance floor, and both a DJ and a live band.

"I think homecoming is something to be very excited about," senior Jadon Lee said. "Last year's dance was executed very well, and I hope this year is even better."

As students stepped into the small gym, they were welcomed with a starlit atmosphere. The vibrant color scheme of blue, purple, and silver, bright fairy lights, and metallic stars hanging overhead, created a planetary theme. There was a wide variety of catering, including Kona Ice, Frost-bites, and BittieBitez Mini-Doughnuts,



ensuring that everyone was fueled for the night. The set-up plan began back in July, with ASB's senior cabinet brainstorming themes and decorations to craft the exhilarating experience.

"Space was a theme that hadn't been done before," senior Karrell Rose said. "We wanted to base our color palette, decorations, and advertisements on more galaxies and stars rather than something like astronauts."



CHARLIE GONZALEZ/ *The Shamrock*

Kennedy students on the dance floor during the Celestial Serenade Homecoming Dance.

As the night continued, the dance floor lit up with a disco ball, flashing lights, and fog machines. The beat of the music and people dancing created an adrenaline-fueled moment.

"My expectations for this dance were high because it was my second dance of my first year," freshman Yza Cunanan said. "My favorite moment from the dance was being the first on the dance floor with some of my friends."

Many students left satisfied and energized. With out-of-this-world decorations, lively entertainment, and a welcoming atmosphere, Celestial Serenade was truly spectacular.



Courtesy of Adobe Stock

Much Ado About Murder

THALIA ECLARINAL

Staff Reporter

Have you heard? There's been a murder in Kennedy High's own MP-1 – and everyone's invited to the investigation.

For their fall play, the Blarney Stone Theater is presenting "Much Ado About Murder," a comedic murder mystery and dinner theater experience that directly involves the audience members in trying to solve the bludgeoning of "rich but rotten" Carlton Larraby. Tickets with dinner must be bought at least one week in advance for \$30 each, and tickets without dinner can be bought within one week of each show date for \$15 each. The show will be performed for two weeks, from Nov. 7-9 and Nov. 14-16 in MP-1. Opening Night Gala tickets, which include a pre-show party with the cast and crew, dinner, the show, and a special souvenir champagne flute, can be purchased for \$45.

"Much Ado About Murder" begins with a Halloween party held in the Larrabys' manor, the colorful variety of characters – Carlton's immediate family and others – all dressed as Shakespearean characters, per their host's request. While the characters are not yet aware of Carlton Larraby's death, the audience is able to experience past events in the story through the master of ceremonies, Mr. Hawker, guiding them with flashbacks and foreshadowing.



THALIA ECLARINAL/ *The Shamrock*

The cast of Much Ado About Murder rehearses before opening night.

"I love social deduction games, so when I heard this play was not only a murder mystery but also interactive and we could solve the murder, I was really really hyped," senior Alex Marasigan said. "I've never been to many of the plays before because they haven't interested me much, but

this one sounds very interesting."

One of the most intriguing elements of this production is the audience's involvement in the progression of the story as they get to know the characters. During the intermission between Acts One and Two, audience members will be allowed to get

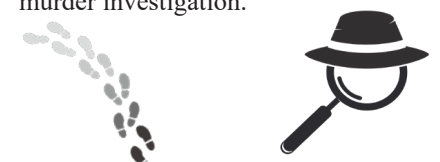
up and investigate the crime scene (also the set of the play) on their own in order to find more clues.

"It's kind of mimicking a theater in the round, except it's a rectangular room," senior and director Isabella Moran said. "But we're using the entire space and we're going to have the audience members being a part of the stage and having the cast interact with them."

This experience will be more immersive and engaging than other plays, so it is highly encouraged to attend to see how the story carries itself out, have a chance at solving Carlton's mysterious death, and eat some delicious food at the same time.

"If you enjoy theater, this is [a show] that you won't want to miss because this takes the involvement levels to the next level," Theater and English teacher John Hoganson said. "You will be part of the cast as you question our suspects and you will enjoy your dinner as we take you away from reality, even if just for a few minutes."

Tickets are limited – buy them fast to avoid missing a chance to participate in the murder investigation.



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Autumn Essentials Checklist

MAKE PUMPKIN COOKIES

- ☐ 1/2 cup of unsalted butter
- ☐ 3/4 cup of light brown sugar
- ☐ 1 large egg yolk
- ☐ 2 teaspoon honey
- ☐ 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- ☐ 1/4 cup pure pumpkin puree
- ☐ 1 1/4 all purpose flour
- ☐ 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- ☐ 1/2 baking soda
- ☐ Pinch of salt
- ☐ 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- ☐ 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1. Heat the butter over low heat until liquid. Let stand until not hot but still liquid.
2. Combine the cooled butter and brown

sugar into a bowl. Mix to blend. Add egg yolk, honey, and vanilla and stir until smooth. Then add pumpkin puree and stir until combined.

3. Add baking soda. Salt, pumpkin pie spice to the bowl and blend again. Add the flour, and combine.
4. Refrigerate for 30 minutes and preheat the oven to 350 degrees fahrenheit. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper.
5. Mix sugar and cinnamon in a small separate bowl. Take out cookie dough and start rolling them into about 12 balls.
6. Roll the balls into the sugar and cinnamon mixture and place on a baking sheet, a few inches apart. Flatten slightly.



7. Bake for 9-12 minutes until browned and center is cracked. Let rest until cool. Enjoy these delicious cookies with family and friends.

Recipe Courtesy of Christina Marsigliese.

LAST MINUTE

MEN IN BLACK



- ☐ Black suit jacket
- ☐ White button up
- ☐ Black suit pants, shorts, or skirt
- ☐ Black Tie

Visit our back page
and an ac

Engage Educate E

FALL MUST DO'S



Take Photos



Bake Cookies



Grab a Pumpkin Spice Latte



Read a Book



Visit a Pumpkin P

E COSTUMES ON THE WEB

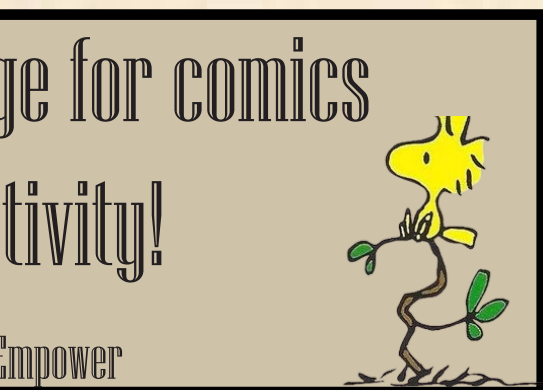
Hello Kitty CHARLIE BROWN



- ☐ Red Shirt
- ☐ Overalls pants, shorts, or skirts
- ☐ A red bow



- ☐ Yellow shirt
- ☐ Black Shorts or Skirt
- ☐ A black marker for marking purposes



WHO'S THE CUTEST?

Winner



SNOOPY 87%



MICKEY 13%



Poll conducted Sept. 26-30 surveying 245 K-High students from all grade levels.

atch



PUMPKIN CARVING IDEAS



Start off Small



Make it Relatable



Turn it Silly



RELEASES

OCT. 18: Smile 2
OCT. 24: Venom:
The Last Dance
OCT. 28: Chro-
makopia by Tyler,
The Creator
NOV. 15: Charli
XCX and Troye
Sivan: Sweat Tour
NOV. 22: Wicked
NOV. 27: Moana 2

WATCHLIST

- ☐ Goodwill Hunting
- ☐ Great Pumpkin Charlie
- ☐ When Harry Met Sally
- ☐ Corpse Bride
- ☐ Hocus Pocus
- ☐ Adams Family
- ☐ Scream
- ☐ The Conjuring
- ☐ A Quiet Place
- ☐ Carrie
- ☐ It
- ☐ Annabelle
- ☐ Terrifier-
- ☐ Hereditary
- ☐ Talk To Me
- ☐ Barbarian
- ☐ Blair Witch Projects
- ☐ Texas Chainsaw
- ☐ Insidious

10|OPINIONS

Knott's Scary Farm vs. Halloween Horror Nights



MARLENE ASCENCIO

Photo Editor

As the Halloween season approaches, everyone is ready to go to all the scary events. Halloween lovers find it difficult to choose a park. Buena Park holds one of the most well-known scary adventure parks. Knott's Scary Farm, also known as "Scary Farm", has been around since 1973 leaving it to be the longest-running Halloween theme park. Halloween Horror Nights (HHN), located in Hollywood's Universal Studios, is known for the crazy

themes they come up with every year. One of the mazes, "A Quiet Place" has caught many people's attention. However, Knott's is worth the money and gives a better experience overall.

"HHN is a better experience if you are only looking for superior mazes. KSF offers a more rounded experience overall," Reddit user @Kevinmattress said.

Scary Farm prices for tickets start at \$59.99, making it an affordable option, while still bringing the same energy and fright as HHN. Whether it's the food or the rides, many seem to come out pleased with what they paid for.

While Scary Farm is family-friendly, there still are some things that visitors don't like. The mazes they have are almost the same every year. This only takes away the suspense that people want. Scary farm does have mazes that are spaced out so people aren't squished and can't enjoy the moment. The detail that is put into them is what allows people to feel like they are really real.

"The Scary Farm team executes con-

cepts in ways that make visitors feel like they have stepped into another world, and not just into a tent or shed where people in store-bought masks or makeup will jump out to scare them," Robert Niles from the OC Register said.

HHN has new mazes every year, and this year's "Insidious: The Further" is what a lot of visitors are most excited about and look forward to. There have been many reviews of HHN saying it is legitimately scary and lives up to the Halloween standards.

"Halloween Horror Nights is so worth it, I'd go again," sophomore Melanie Lopez said.

One of the biggest cons is how long wait lines can get. Wait time for just one haunted house can be up to three hours on a busy day or an hour on a slow day. An express pass, starting at \$249, allows you

to get into the mazes faster, but the cost is not affordable for some guests.

Depending on whether one prioritizes a cost-friendly budget or a super scary experience, one park may better suit that preference. Scary Farm allows you to still be on a flexible budget while still bringing the fright to this Halloween season.



Image: MARLENE ASCENCIO/The Shamrock
Graphic: Courtesy of PEANUTS



Is Disney Running Out of Ideas?



SARAH SOLANO

Editor-In-Chief

On Aug. 9-11, 2024, The Walt Disney Company held D23: The Ultimate Disney Fan Event, at the Anaheim Convention Center and the Honda Center. The event is held once every two years, and one of its biggest and most popular factors is the announcements of new film and television projects coming from the company. This year in particular, many sequels and live-action remakes were announced. One can only wonder if Disney is beginning to run out of original ideas.

Fan expectations were high going into the announcements made at the event. However, while greatly anticipated, the announcements for new films and shows were oddly disappointing.

Disney announced close to 20 new projects for film and television, a majority of these are either sequels to already successful films of theirs, spin-offs, or live-action remakes.

Some of the sequels that were announced or previewed at the event include "Incredibles 3," "Toy Story 5," "Avatar 3," "Moana 2," "Frozen 3" and "Freakier Friday." Some of the live-action remakes include "Snow White," "Lilo & Stitch," "Mufasa: The Lion King" and "Monster Jam."

In this category, only a small handful of original content was announced. These include the films "Elio" and "Hoppers," and the television series "Win or Lose."

The announcements left a bad taste in some fans' mouths. Disney is simply sticking to characters and films they know have done and will continue to do well, instead of coming up with original ideas that they think the fans will enjoy just as much.

"The new movies coming out are honestly disappointing and seem like the easy way out for Disney," junior Kristy Le said. "I want something new instead of dragging out movies that don't necessarily need sequels to them."

Disney has always provided a company that caters to their fans. They are con-

stantly being relied on to keep the magic alive, and they have always tried their best to do so.

"[The fans] energy and enthusiasm fuels us and your passion drives us both to work even harder and to exceed your expectations," CEO of The Walt Disney Company Bob Iger said at the D23 Entertainment Showcase. "I speak for everyone at Disney when I say there is nothing that we love more than to entertain you, to thrill you, to surprise you...and we know that when we do that, we're doing our jobs right."

Although it is not a surprise that Disney has put a lot of thought and effort into their new projects, some find it sad and

shocking that they are simply creating sequels, as it makes it appear as though they are afraid to try many new things at once. Many loyal Disney fans are so unhappy about the announcements that they have even begun to question Disney's faithfulness to its origins.

"Walt Disney never wanted sequels," X, formerly known as Twitter user @TheLazerOfficial said. "He didn't believe in them and fast forward years later and Disney has so many sequels now."

The lack of ideas from the Disney company is evident after this event, and it can only be questioned how well their new lineup of projects will do.



Courtesy of DISNEY
Disney CEO Bob Iger and Mickey Mouse on stage at D23.

ENGAGE



EDUCATE



EMPOWER



ANNELIESE CROSLIN
Staff Reporter

The Roblox game “Dress to Impress” is on the rise and has become a favorite among users. However, the game itself is simple due to the lack of a plot that other games attain, such as the horror games on the platform.

Roblox has multiple games for entertainment for one to play alone. However, “Dress to Impress” by itself doesn’t provide a captivating interest in going solo.

Without friends, the game fails to engage its players. Friends allow for conversation and provide the entertainment of the game. The simple concept of dressing up a character and voting which character is the best becomes repetitive after a few rounds. On the contrary, the horror games on Roblox have a story being told, engaging its players through the curiosity

★ Dress To Impress or Dress To Dissappoint? ★

of what happens next.

“Dress to Impress is the only Roblox game I play. It’s my favorite game,” senior Chloe Reid said. “Though I play longer when I’m with my friends.”

Additionally, fashion games feed into sexist stereotypes. The game lacks male clothing which reinforces the stereotype that women are more associated with fashion than men. This suggests that women have more variety and taste in regard to clothing, while men don’t. It drives those who prefer masculine clothing away from the game.

“It’s really annoying,” sophomore Heaven Alberto said.

Alberto still plays the game, but having more masculine garments would make the experience better.

“Dress to Impress” also gives a false depiction of what and how a woman should look.

“It shapes the minds of kids to think a certain way about womens’ appearance,” Basel Elias, an uncle to three nephews and one niece who play the game, said.

Children are taught that the woman’s body type in the game is how each woman should appear; although in reality, there are many different body types.

“Dress to Impress”, although fun with friends, is not the best Roblox game due to the many stereotypes it presents throughout the game and the lack of engagement.



@DRESSTOIMPRESSFITS/Instagram
Courtesy of ROBLOX

Has Fame Gone to Chappell Roan’s Head?



RICHELLE RORICK
Opinions Editor

When Chappell Roan entered the music industry in 2017, she expressed a love-hate relationship towards the industry and the people in society. Now she has become a hot topic among artists and has been criticized when she hasn’t changed. Roan, an American drag singer-songwriter, has had conflicts with her fans and others due to the way she acts, although it’s only her personality which she has shown since the beginning of her career.

Since her album “The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess” was released, her fame has risen, especially due to her song “HOT TO GO!” Each of her songs shows her character, so it shouldn’t come as a shock how bold she is.

Roan performed at one of the biggest festivals, “Outside Lands”, on Aug. 11, where the VIP section didn’t participate in



Courtesy of THE PHOTO LADIES.
Chappell Roan at Revolution Live - Fort Lauderdale.

her “HOT TO GO!” dance. She showed how daring and witty she is by calling them out and telling them to be fun and try. However, it caused controversy due to people criticizing and claiming she was acting entitled.

“She just wanted to show the people that you are supposed to have fun and enjoy it,” senior Mia Meharena said.

Due to Roan’s mental health and the stress she goes through, on Sep. 28-29,

Roan was supposed to perform at the “All Things Go” festival but canceled at the last minute. As a person in the public eye, she had responsibilities to perform as her job, just as anyone else.

Her cancellation made people furious because she did what most people who have full-time jobs can’t do: Choose not to go to work. As an artist, she has the power to do what she wants, even if it means canceling a show.

Roan didn’t expect to get famous in such a short time and especially didn’t expect all the downsides that come with it.

Multiple fans and non-fans had harassed her in places when she was only trying to go about her daily life. People yell at her to sign posters, tell her to humble herself, and she gets overly stalked, but she is only human.

“It’s about artists setting boundaries,” Roan’s Manager, Nick Bobetsky said on Billboard Magazine. “The majority of fans don’t cross that line, but there are some who just don’t respect those boundaries... it’s about human boundaries.”

Roan made an appearance at the most recent Video Music Awards (VMAs) on Sep. 11, and was yelled at and cussed at by the paparazzi and she did not stand for that. Roan took things into her own hands and stood up for herself by yelling back at the paparazzi.

“I think for someone who gets a lot of anxiety around people yelling at you, the carpet is horrifying, and I yelled back,” Roan said on Entertainment Tonight. “You don’t get to yell at me like that.”

While Roan deals with so much conflict in the industry and the people, she doesn’t let it tear her down. She continues to keep it casual, especially with all the criticism she faces.



Irish Crush Tiger Pride In Hoco Game

JACOB CHAVIRA

Sports Editor

The Fighting Irish imposed their will with a 34-19 victory over the Valencia Tigers on Oct. 4 in the first league game of the season at Handel Stadium in the highly anticipated homecoming game for Kennedy High. The Irish earned a total of 218 combined passing yards and 116 combined rushing yards. With a 27-0 lead at the end of halftime Kennedy High set the tone for the other half of the game.

The Irish received the ball to start the game, they fought their way through eight minutes and 40 seconds of offense and with just three minutes and 20 seconds left in the first quarter quarterback Devin Almazan ran in a 5-yard touchdown to bring the score to 7-0.

“I would say it was actually a fairly calming feeling. Of course I was excited that we had scored but being able to put points on the board first is always a quick way to set the tone for the rest of the night and set any nerves at ease,” Devin Almazan said.

The defense started off strong with a tackle from linebacker Riley Schow and defensive tackle Nick Husges, as well as great coverage from cornerback Mahseiah Banks and Husges with a blocked pass. With the Irish holding the Tigers to a fourth down they chose the safest option and punted, giving the ball back to the Fighting Irish. Unfortunately for the Irish, the Tigers produced a similar outcome forcing the Irish to punt.

Valencia started the second quarter off on the opposite 33-yard line, while scoring chances seemed low, with smart run plays the Tigers soon moved the line of scrimmage to the 20-yard line. With the threat of the Tigers scoring, Kennedy



Courtesy of CARLI SCOTT

Rocco Street makes a tackle against Valencia QB Adrian Hurtado.

High’s defense locked in and held them to a field goal. The kick was up but was immediately blocked by cornerback Makhell Beatty. Valencia now on defense held the Irish to punt the ball to the opposite 42-yard line. The tigers fought their way down to the 30-yard line where the Irish held them there. On third-and-ten linebacker Rocco Street with a late blitz sacked the Tigers quarterback putting the Tigers on the 36-yard line and forcing them to punt the ball away.

“Mentally it felt good because I knew I got my job done and did my part on keeping Valencia out of the end zone and that was the whole plan going into the game just create turnovers and that’s what I did,” Beatty said.

With the ball on the opposite 15-yard line for the Irish and with under 2 minutes until the end of the quarter, the Irish decided to pass. With great blocking from the offensive line quarterback Derek Almazan passes the ball to wide receiver Mahseiah Banks, Banks secured the catch on the 50-yard line and ran it in for an 85-yard touchdown pass making the score 13-0 but also achieving the fifth-longest pass in the state of California from the weekend of Oct. 4.

“I felt great after the touchdown, knowing that I was able to help our team get the win and all of the work we put in at practice is paying off is a great feeling,” Banks said.

With one minute and 43 seconds left in the quarter, the Tigers get another shot at scoring. However, with pressure from the

defensive line, a sack from defensive end Moa Moimoi, and a tackle for loss from linebacker Cole Norris. The Tigers were forced to punt, giving the Fighting Irish the ball. With under a minute left Devin Almazan passed the ball to running back Isaac Talamantes and ran it in for a 67-yard touchdown.

The Irish kicked it off to the Tigers once more but the Tigers fumbled the kickoff giving the ball back to the Irish on their very own 9-yard line. With 29 seconds left in the half, Derek Almazan passed the ball to Talamantes who ran it in for a touchdown. The Irish went for two points with Derek Almazan passing to Street making the two points and adding to the score 27-0.

“We missed 2 opportunities the previous plays so I knew we had to get something there so I did my best to keep the play alive and find my guy open,” Derek Almazan said.

In the opening of the second half the Tigers received the ball on the opposite 27-yard line. Valencia moved down the field to the 30-yard line but not without facing adversity from the Irish defense with defensive end Gio Santos, defensive tackle Steven Aldapa, and safety Deon Bynum getting tackles against the Tigers. With a false start on the offense, the ball ends up on the 29-yard line, the Tigers decide to run it but it is met with an impressive hit from Street forcing a turnover. Three plays after the Irish got the ball back, Devin Almazan handed the ball off to Talamantes to score a 70-yard touchdown increasing the score to 34-0.

“During the homecoming game I had a great night with a great decision by my coaches. Putting me on offense where

I see green grass and play my hardest,” Talamantes said. “I felt good but I also worked hard and worked for this so I expect more.”

Valencia High received the ball on the opposite 28-yard line. The Tigers ran the ball but experienced some trouble with tackles being made by Santos, Street, Aldapa, and defensive end Maxwell Kim. Unfortunately for the Irish, that wasn’t enough, the Tigers with one minute and two seconds left in the quarter were able to score their first touchdown when quarterback Adrian Hurtado ran in for a 3-yard touchdown making the score 34-6.

The final quarter began with the Irish on the opposite 41-yard line with Devin Almazan passing the ball impressively and Talamantes running the ball leading the Irish down the field to the 15-yard line. With the Tigers defense holding the Irish offense to the 15-yard line, The Fighting Irish went for a field goal but missed the kick giving the Tigers the ball back. The Tigers were able to move the ball down the field but were faced with many tackles from linebacker Brett Dolman, defensive end Dylan Edds, and safety Cody Herrera. Hurtado handed off the ball to running back Louis Galvan to score a touchdown making the score 34-13.

“I just love to go out there and make as many plays as possible whenever I get called on, there really isn’t any other feeling like it out there,” Dolman said.

The Tigers then performed an onside kick where they recovered the ball and we’re back on offense once again. With one minute and 43 seconds left in the game The Tigers ran the ball but faced the Irish defense with pressure from the defensive line and tackles made by Herrera and Dolman.

Hurtado handed off the ball to running back Alex Buchanon to score another touchdown late in the fourth quarter bringing the score to 34-19. With 42 seconds left in the game, the Irish got the ball back but were unable to put any more points on the board. But with the win secured everyone rooting for the Fighting Irish were happy.

The fighting Irish became triumphant in their efforts against Valencia High with a 34-19 final with an impressive win for the Irish in their homecoming game. The Irish then successfully went up against the Fullerton Indians where the Irish took the win in a crushing 28-0 victory. The Irish battled against the Beckman Patriots last week at Tustin High where the Irish fell to the patriots 14-20 in overtime. The Irish (5-3) go against the Marina Vikings (8-0) this Thursday, Oct. 24 at Handel Stadium.



@MAESCOTTSports/Instagram
(L to R) Ryan Soto, Lucas Irons, Noah Scott, Zayden Chang, and Gio Santos walk to the line of scrimmage.



Sho-Time Comes Back to Anaheim

NATALIYA LACISTE
Features Editor

The 2024 “Freeway Series” was more than just a series to Shohei Ohtani. Considering the historical past Ohtani had with the Los Angeles Angels, he continues to make more history as a Dodger. Fans provided a warm welcome for Ohtani early on Sept. 3, as he stepped in as the first batter of the game.

Ohtani got the energy ready in the start of the game giving the Dodgers a 6-2 victory leading in 10 innings at Angels Stadium in Anaheim. This game was a very special night for Ohtani, as many fans were in blue and red supporting the same number, 17.

The Angels did a special welcoming as Ohtani walked to first base. They showed a graphic with him in an Angels Jersey on the jumbotron in big letters, ‘WELCOME BACK SHOHEI OHTANI’ with all his achievements as an Angel at the bottom. 2018 Rookie of the Year, 2021 AL MVP, 2023 AL MVP, and two-Time Silver Slugger.

Although Ohtani didn’t perform his best that game, he continues to shock everyone with his talent and accomplishments as a Dodger.

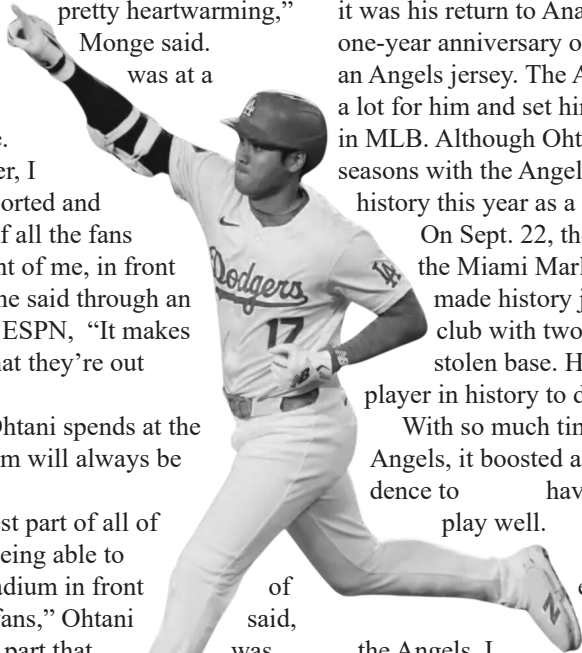
“Ohtani’s welcome back to the Angels Stadium was pretty heartwarming,” senior Daniel Monge said. Ohtani was at a loss for words after the game.

“As a player, I feel very supported and appreciative of all the fans that are in front of me, in front of the team,” he said through an interrupter on ESPN, “It makes a difference that they’re out here.”

The time Ohtani spends at the Angels Stadium will always be remembered.

“The biggest part of all of this is really being able to play at this stadium in front of the Anaheim fans,” Ohtani said, “That was the part that was special to me.”

“It was so sentimental, seeing him in an Angels jersey I was like, ‘He used to be one of us,’” junior Mayah Mejia said. “He was a part of my team and seeing him go on and do bigger and better things under a different name was really sentimental.”



This game was even more special as it was his return to Anaheim after his one-year anniversary of his last game in an Angels jersey. The Angels have done a lot for him and set him up for success in MLB. Although Ohtani had very good seasons with the Angels, he has made history this year as a Dodger.

On Sept. 22, the Dodgers played the Miami Marlins where Ohtani made history joining the 50/50 club with two home runs and one stolen base. He is the only MLB player in history to do so.

With so much time spent with the Angels, it boosted a lot of his confidence to have him continue to play well.

“He got a lot of experience in the MLB through the Angels, I feel like that set him up to do well and succeed as a Dodger,” Mejia said.

On Sept. 22, the Dodgers officially clinched the Postseason. As of Saturday, Oct. 19, the Dodgers held a 3-2 lead over the New York Mets in the National League Championship Series.

Dodger fans hope Ohtani’s stellar season ends with a World Series for the L.A.

OHTANI’S HISTORIC 2024 SEASON

HOME RUNS
54 2ND IN THE LEAGUE

STOLEN BASES
59 2ND IN THE LEAGUE

BATTING AVERAGE
.310 5TH IN THE LEAGUE

ON-BASE PLUS SLG
.390 5TH IN THE LEAGUE

RUNS BATTED IN
130 2ND IN THE LEAGUE

WINS ABOVE REPL.
9.2 3RD IN THE LEAGUE

Courtesy of MLB
ASHLEY LANDIS / Los Angeles Times

The Opening of the NFL Season

OWEN JESSEN
Staff Reporter

The 2024 NFL season has kicked off outstandingly, showcasing early dominance from various teams and uprising new rookies.

Games have been played nationwide, and fans are seeing who may be the top contenders. Many new and old players are putting up great numbers doing their best to help their team become victorious. Certain teams have switched up their play-styles and rosters. Fans wonder how their favorite teams will compete this season.

The pre-season opener between the Kansas City Chiefs and the Detroit Lions set the wave for an intense season. Super Bowl quarterback champion Patrick Mahomes struggled offensively. According to the NFL stats, Mahomes finished with 8/14 C/ATT, and the amount of 93 yards thrown. Both backup quarterbacks Chris Oladokun and Carson Wentz assisted on the 2 only touchdowns Kansas City got. The Lions, on the other hand, lived up

to the hype. With Nate Sufelf, Detroit moved the ball efficiently, and according to the NFL stats, a rookie signed as a free agent, Isaiah Williams, was listed at six receptions, for 71 yards. Ultimately, the Lion’s defense stepped up, forcing a late turnover to seal a 24-23 upset victory over the Chiefs.

“The Chiefs always have a good shot. Mahomes is a game-changer, and that team is loaded with talent,” senior Kiran Owens said.

“I also think the Vikings have a good shot. They’ve been building something special, and they’re a team to watch.”

A new star to look out for in this NFL season is first-round pick Caleb Williams. The Chicago Bears drafted Williams as a quarterback. The Bears first-round pick showcased his elite skills in Week 1, with 14/29 C/ATT for 93 yards plus a victory. Williams was the first first-round pick since 2002 to win his rookie debut game.

NFL WEEK 8 SCHEDULE

Vikings Rams	Thu, Oct 24 5:15 PM	Packers Jaguars	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM
Cardinals Dolphins	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM	Jets Patriots	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM
Ravens Browns	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM	Eagles Bengals	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM
Colts Texans	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM	Titans Lions	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM
Falcons Buccaneers	Sun, Oct 27 10:00 AM	Saints Chargers	Sun, Oct 27 1:05 PM
Bills Seahawks	Sun, Oct 27 1:05 PM	Bears Commanders	Sun, Oct 27 1:25 PM
Chiefs Raiders	Sun, Oct 27 1:25 PM	Panthers Broncos	Sun, Oct 27 1:25 PM
Cowboys 49ers	Sun, Oct 27 5:20 PM	Giants Steelers	Mon, Oct 28 5:15 PM

ENGAGE



EDUCATE



EMPOWER

Raps Influence on the Youth

OWEN JESSEN

Staff Reporter

Rap music has long been a dividing genre since the 90's. Rap music has various different viewpoints from different individuals. Some people are on edge about it due to controversial lyrics and obnoxious beats, but others find it therapeutic due to it resonating with multiple emotions and experiences. There are a lot of impressionable young minds, and the influence it has on teenagers can be both positive or negative. The genre holds a lot of value to today's youth, and speaks for many teenagers who may feel "voiceless."

This genre tends to reach a certain demographic of people. That demographic being individuals engaging with their identity. Rap music tends to reach an audience due to its lyrics addressing issues like poverty, discrimination, or mental health. Many teenagers listen to rap music to feel seen or heard.

"I love how rap music is always evolving," senior Lael Okbaab said. "There are always new performing artists who make good music. Music plays a big role in my life since I listen for eight hours a day."

Rap music is always changing and is very



diverse. Listening to it for long periods of time addresses this diversity which draws teens in. The result offers new voices, styles, and ideas that evolve with them. Although it may be diverse, rap music also has its downsides.

"A negative effect from rap music to the youth around me is probably the artists introducing them to gun violence or drugs from the lyrics the artists have in their songs," freshman Jousha Beraki said.

The culture in rap music normalizing inappropriate behavior could possibly desensitize teenagers to the consequences of their actions. The influence it has, especially when not censored or supervised, could create twisted perceptions into what is and isn't acceptable.

In essence, rap music reflects certain parts of society helping individuals relate and find comfort within the lyrics. For many teens around the world, getting persuaded by rap music could be both dangerous or empowering. Balance is needed within this genre. Rap is a form of art, but depending on how someone uses it determines whether it can heal or harm somebody.

Courtesy of SPOTIFY
Future Hndrxx's album The Wizrd



2024 Emmy Awards

THALIA ECLARINAL

Staff Reporter

Best Comedy

"The Bear" (FX)

Best Drama

"Succession" (HBO)

Best Limited Series

"Beef" (Netflix)

Best Actress, Comedy

Quinta Brunson, "Abbott Elementary"

Best Actor, Comedy

Jeremy Allen White, "The Bear"

Best Actress, Drama

Sarah Snook, "Succession"

Best Actor, Drama

Kieran Culkin, "Succession"

Best Actress, Limited Series or TV Movie

Ali Wong, "Beef"

Best Actor, Limited Series or TV Movie

Steven Yeun, "Beef"

Supporting Actress, Comedy

Ayo Edebiri, "The Bear"

Supporting Actor, Comedy

Ebon Moss-Bachrach, "The Bear"

Supporting Actress, Drama

Jennifer Coolidge, "The White Lotus"

Supporting Actor, Drama

Matthew Macfadyen, "Succession"

etc.

On Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024, the 76th annual Emmy Awards were held in the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles at 5:00 p.m. Hosted by father-son actor duo Dan and Eugene Levy, the ceremony celebrated a wide variety of well-known television shows and series. The biggest winners of the night were FX's "Shōgun" and "The Bear," both of which ended up breaking records and making history.

"I thought they were pretty simple this year; It wasn't a flop, but it wasn't incredible," senior Izzy Lopez said. "Eugene and Dan Levy did a great job and were funny – not crazy funny, but funny."

"Shōgun," an American historical fiction drama series, is inspired by the power struggle in feudal Japan between Toyotomi Hideyoshi's successors that eventually led to the founding of the Tokugawa Shōgunate. It had a total of 25 nominations and 18 wins across both the Creative Arts and Primetime Emmy Awards, making it this year's most-nominated and highest-winning show.

Actors Anna Sawai and Hiroyuki Sanada respectively won Best Lead Actress

and Actor (respectively) in a Drama Series, making history as the first Japanese performers to win each of these Emmys, Sawai going a step further as the first Asian performer to win best actress.

"Mom, I love you. [...] You showed me stoicism and that's how I was able to portray Mariko." Sawai said in her acceptance speech. "This is to all the women who expect nothing and continue to be an example for everyone."

Another FX production, "The Bear" follows a young award-winning chef who returns home to Chicago to run his deceased brother's chaotic sandwich shop. The comedy-drama series took home 11 wins out of 23 nominations, beating its own record of ten in a single year from the last Emmys, as well as gaining the title of most-ever nominations of a comedy series in a single year. Liza Colón-Zayas, who plays sous chef Tina Marrero, became the first Latina to win for supporting actress in a comedy series.

One major award it seemed to fall short of was the outstanding comedy series – won instead by Max's "Hacks." It is im-

portant to remember, however, that awards are not the only credible measurement of a product's worth.

"I use awards shows as a good indicator of movies and shows I might be interested in watching, but I don't put much stock in the winners," English and Reading Movies teacher David Jankowski said. "They're just opinions, and oftentimes, they're opinions I don't share."

As aforementioned, "Hacks" won outstanding comedy series and Jean Smart won outstanding lead actress in a comedy series for portraying its protagonist, Deborah Vance.

Some other big winners of that night included NBC's "Saturday Night Live," which has the most-ever Emmy nominations (331) and Emmy wins (90), and Netflix's "Baby Reindeer," both of which won six awards.



Courtesy of MID-AMERICA EMMYS

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The Rise of Sabrina Carpenter

SARAH SOLANO

Editor-In-Chief

The summer of 2024 was a truly special time for pop culture in the media. Films premiered, shows released seasons, and artists toured and released music. One artist in particular who had an eventful summer is singer and actress Sabrina Carpenter.

Carpenter began her career as a child actor. She became known for starring in the Disney Channel show “Girl Meets World” in 2014. Carpenter was also actively pursuing music at the time, and released her first EP on April 8, 2014.

Carpenter continued to develop her music career over the years, however she was most known for her acting career.

“I first watched Sabrina Carpenter on Disney Channel,” junior Zakery Bumanlag said. “Then I discovered her album ‘emails i can’t send’ on TikTok as it became very popular.”

Carpenter’s first extreme fame surge came in the form of an online drama in 2021 with popular singers and actors Olivia Rodrigo and Joshua Bassett. The three were involved in a very public love triangle, which led to Carpenter releasing two songs about the situation, one titled “Skin,” and one released the following year, titled “because i liked a boy.” The release of this song and the album it was written for, “emails i can’t send,” caused a spike in popularity for Carpenter, and had the media sympathizing with her situation.

The next step of Carpenter’s popularity spike came in August 2023, when she began her run as an opening act for Taylor Swift’s “The Eras Tour.” Carpenter debuted her act in Mexico City, and finished her run in Singapore in March 2024.

With “The Eras Tour” being the highest grossing concert tour in history, Carpenter began getting her share of the fame from being a part of it. Fans of Swift supported Carpenter immensely and began flocking to her fanbase. By the time her run on the tour ended, Carpenter had become a household name for Swift fans everywhere.

“That’s a wrap on ‘The Eras Tour.’” Sitting at home reflecting on what a whirlwind this was and how very honored I feel to have been part of it,” Carpenter said in an Instagram post. “I want to thank every crowd for being so welcoming and generous to us and making some of the most impressive friendship bracelets I’ve ever received.”

After Carpenter ended her run sharing a stage with Swift, she continued to build her individual career. On April 11, 2024, Carpenter released her single “Espresso,” which quickly took over the media. The song led many to discover her music for the first time, and was instantly deemed the “song of the summer” by fans, along with hitting the top of the billboard charts in May.



Courtesy of ARTURO HOLMES/ GETTY IMAGES
Sabrina Carpenter performs during the 2024 Coachella Music and Arts Festival.

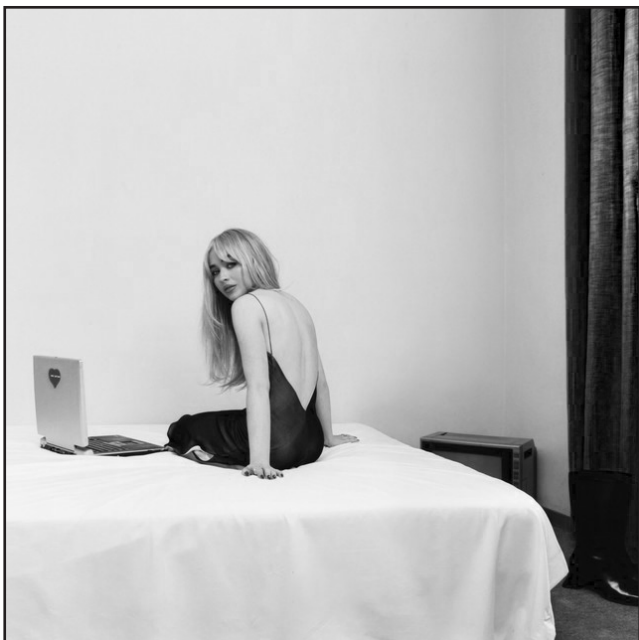
Carpenter released her most recent single, “Please Please Please,” on June 6, 2024. This was the final single leading up to her most recent album, “Short n’ Sweet,” which was announced on June 3, 2024 and released on Aug. 23, 2024.

Many of Carpenter’s newly recruited and long term fans all waited with excitement and anticipation for a new era of her music, and were not met with disappointment.

“The more I listen to “Short n’ Sweet” the more I realize that this album is so strong and really doesn’t have skips,” X, formerly known as Twitter, user @tallesttiptoes said. “Even the weaker songs are strong compared to other albums. She really did something with this one.”

After the release of her album, Carpenter announced her next tour, “The Short N’ Sweet Tour.” She began her tour on Sep. 23, 2024 in Columbus, Ohio, and will be in Los Angeles on Nov. 15.

Carpenter’s fanbase, made up of both old and new fans, grows more and more by the day and proves to be one of the most dedicated. Her rise to fame will forever be known as one of the most iconic of her time, and as the fans and Carpenter herself have proven, she leaves quite an impression.



Courtesy of SPOTIFY
Sabrina Carpenter’s Album “emails i can’t send”



Courtesy of SPOTIFY
Sabrina Carpenter’s Album “Short n’ Sweet”

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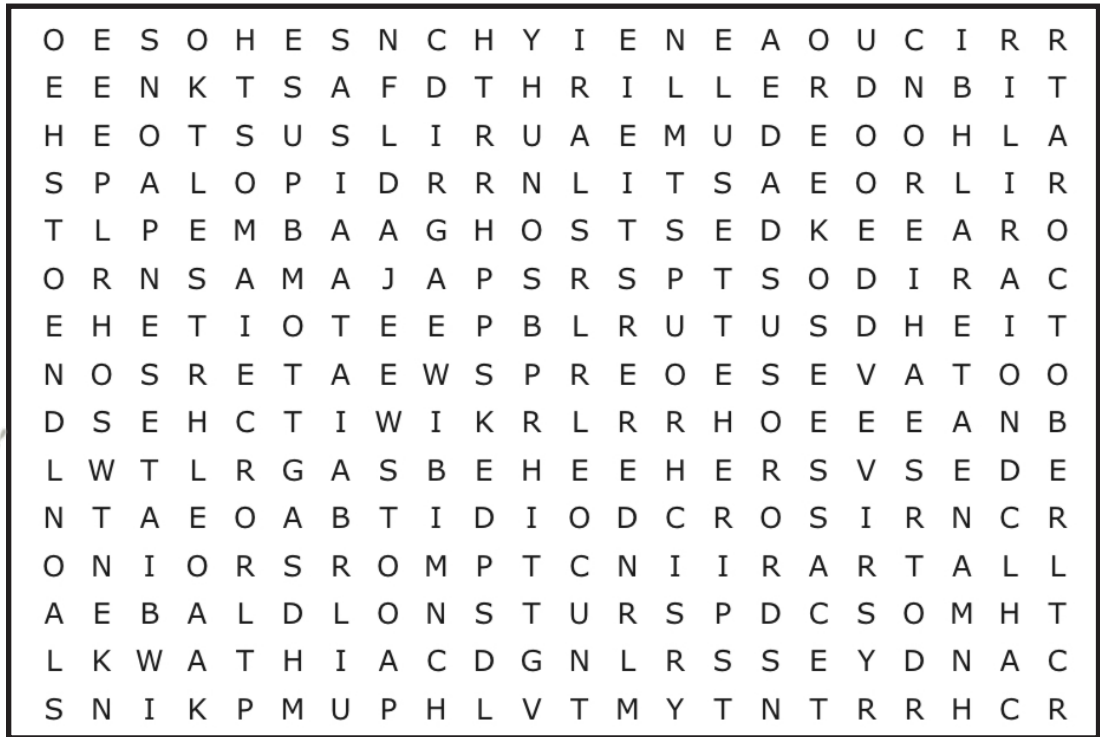
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The Greatest Pumpkin Contest

Illustrations By Ava Cerda



The Final Girl



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BATS
BOOGIE
BOOKSTORE
CANDY
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HARVEST
HORROR
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